

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL - PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Public Hearing – January 18, 2022: Resolution to adopt Board of Health Regulation - Vaccination Requirements to Enter Bars, Restaurants, Recreation Centers, and Other Covered Establishments

Submitted by Kenneth Wormald

January 17, 2022

As a multi-generational Montgomery County resident married to a retired Montgomery County Public Schools special ed school teacher and as a local businessman doing a significant amount of business in Montgomery County, generating significant tax revenue for the County, I rise in **STRONG OPPOSITION** to the proposed highly-discriminatory “denial of access” plan designed to coerce tax-paying citizens who are not vaccinated into compliance.

I provide seven reasons below which I request the Council consider in their deliberations:

- 1) **INJURY TO AREA BUSINESSES.** Not only will hundreds of thousands of county residents be immediately forced out of memberships or out of their favorite restaurants, but we will also lose the business of the vaccinated who oppose vaccine mandates in principle. Almost everyone we know, Democrats and Republicans, vaccinated and unvaccinated, oppose vaccine mandates. There will be widespread discontent against the Council’s policy and patrons will take their business to surrounding jurisdictions that don’t have mandates for entry, severely hurting Montgomery County businesses.
- 2) **INEQUITY.** The policy is discriminatory in nature as you will be disproportionately barring large numbers of minorities from entering restaurants and other establishments. According to County data, between 35 and 40% of blacks in Montgomery County are not vaccinated. In the fall of 2021, Black Lives Matter and other activist groups flooded the streets of New York claiming racism by elected officials in response to the New York City vaccine requirement to enter area restaurants and other establishments. We should all be prepared for similar civil unrest in Montgomery County should you elect to implement this draconian measure. See articles:

Black Lives Matter of Greater New York leader blasts vaccine mandates as racist and disrespectful

https://www.yahoo.com/now/black-lives-matter-greater-york-200600400.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAK-mSJNdGZzoqes1Duqjv6ihg7WKZdJZOhiY3utJIRK2uO1zROb_L8DqRyLajquOvr43obw7Dz7I80NfrtpFiVI4W2OWsEVkwa6me2gH0skDyP0AModDB7YsKEFv-FMYudIqak8BZVC8MWOsOs_qS_0LnX3zLVF3QTXOmtrNsUs

BLM organizer says de Blasio vaccine mandate weaponized against black community

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/blm-organizer-de-blasio-vaccine-mandate-weaponized-black-community>

- 3) **RELIGIOUS AND MEDICAL DISCRIMINATION.** We know many people who have deeply held religious convictions as well as medical conditions which prohibit them from taking the vaccine. To prohibit these citizens from accessing their favorite establishments is unethical, a violation of ADA law, and disrespects the right we all have to consult with our doctors and our God to make decisions for our own health.
- 4) **COVID SHOTS DON'T STOP SPREAD.** The entire premise being promulgated by Montgomery County of "stop the spread" has been proven patently false by numerous scientific studies. There is no correlation between rate of vaccination and the stop of Covid spread. In fact, the data indicates slightly higher spread rates among more vaccinated populations. See this exhaustive European Journal of Epidemiology study of 68 countries and 2,947 counties in the United States: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8481107/> . In addition, preliminary studies and simple observation indicate that the existing COVID vaccines have severely-reduced efficacy or even negative efficacy against Omicron infections which represent 95% of today's infections. 100% of the people we know who currently have Covid are vaccinated and most are also boosted.
- 5) **NATURAL IMMUNITY.** Johns Hopkins doctors and most scientists across the world acknowledge that natural immunity is upwards of 27x more effective in resisting Covid than vaccination and yet the Council completely ignores this large portion of the population who have natural immunity (see <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/09/15/natural-immunity-vaccine-mandate/> and <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.08.24.21262415v1>). To continue to ignore the science on this and restrict tax-paying, naturally immune residents from entering their favorite establishments makes no sense and is a gross injustice.
- 6) **ADVERSE REACTIONS.** The government's VAERS database has recorded more Covid-19 shot adverse events and deaths than double all previous vaccines in recorded history combined. As of January 17, 2022, VAERS is showing 4,765,485 adverse events from the Covid-19 shots including 10,878 deaths reported on the platform (https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/datarequest/D8;jsessionid=6150FD9D4F358FE48491BFDA16F7?stage=results&action=sort&direction=MEASURE_DESCEND&measure=D8.M1). It is widely known (through a Harvard study) that only about 1% of actual adverse events get reported to VAERS so the actual numbers are much higher. Previous vaccination programs were abandoned with as little as 25 deaths. We have personally witnessed numerous adverse reactions among friends and work colleagues ranging from one man having to rush his 17-year old son off to the hospital for swelling of the heart / pain; another man whose intracranial pressure was so severe and was traveling down his neck that he felt he was going to die and started to prepare his will; to large amounts of females reporting issues with their periods (i.e. severe bleeding); to neuropathies; to pain traveling down the arms; to brain fog for months after the shot; and the list goes on. To mandate an emergency-use-authorization injection with these statistics is reckless.
- 7) **SAFE & EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS.** The elephant in the room which negates the need for a vaccine mandate is that front-line doctors across the nation have developed safe and effective treatments for Covid-19 for some time now. There are a panoply of

treatments from anti-virals to anti-inflammatory drugs that have upwards of 85 to 95% effectiveness in successfully treating Covid-19 in all its stages. (see one example site of many: <https://covid19criticalcare.com/covid-19-protocols/i-mask-plus-protocol/>). Why has the county not implemented educational programming to assist residents in getting the help they need? Instead they say “go home and if you get sick enough, go to the hospital”. Never in medical history have we failed to treat the patient as we have now. This is unconscionable.